

ESSB 5872 - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Children & Family Services

NOT ADOPTED 04/07/2005

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Under the direction of the joint task force  
4 created in section 2 of this act, the Washington state institute for  
5 public policy shall conduct a study to determine the most appropriate  
6 and effective administrative structure for delivery of social and  
7 health services to the children and families of the state, including  
8 how best to ensure that an administrative structure has defined lines  
9 of responsibility for delivering services to children and families in  
10 need and the best means for the public to hold government accountable  
11 for delivery of those services. The institute shall compare the  
12 effectiveness of: Including social and health services to children and  
13 families within an umbrella agency, such as the current department of  
14 social and health services; establishing a separate agency for social  
15 and health services to children and families whose administrator  
16 reports directly to the governor; or creating a children and family  
17 services cabinet reporting directly to the governor. The institute  
18 shall, as part of the comparison, examine the administrative structures  
19 used in other states to deliver social and health services to children  
20 and families.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) A joint task force is created to  
22 determine the most appropriate and effective administrative structure  
23 for delivery of social and health services to the children and families  
24 of the state. The joint task force shall direct the study conducted by  
25 the Washington state institute for public policy pursuant to this act.  
26 Membership of the joint task force shall consist of the following:

27 (a) The dean of the school of social work at the University of  
28 Washington or an academic professor from a list recommended by the

1 dean, jointly appointed by the chairs of the house children and family  
2 services committee and the senate human services and corrections  
3 committee;

4 (b) Two members of the house of representatives appointed by the  
5 speaker of the house of representatives, one of whom shall be a member  
6 of the majority caucus and one of whom shall be a member of the  
7 minority caucus, and two members of the senate appointed by the  
8 president of the senate, one of whom shall be a member of the majority  
9 caucus and one of whom shall be a member of the minority caucus;

10 (c) The secretary of the department of social and health services  
11 or the secretary's designee;

12 (d) An individual with previous experience as an administrator of  
13 a public agency providing services to children and families, jointly  
14 appointed by the chairs of the house children and family services  
15 committee and the senate human services and corrections committee;

16 (e) A juvenile court administrator, jointly appointed by the chairs  
17 of the house children and family services committee and the senate  
18 human services and corrections committee;

19 (f) A family superior court judge, jointly appointed by the chairs  
20 of the house children and family services committee and the senate  
21 human services and corrections committee;

22 (g) The director of the office of the family and children's  
23 ombudsman;

24 (h) A social worker with experience in the public sector serving  
25 children and families, jointly appointed by the chairs of the house  
26 children and family services committee and the senate human services  
27 and corrections committee; and

28 (i) Two representatives of community-based providers serving  
29 children and families, jointly appointed by the chairs of the house  
30 children and family services committee and the senate human services  
31 and corrections committee.

32 (2) The dean of the school of social work at the University of  
33 Washington or the academic professor, jointly appointed by the chairs  
34 of the house children and family services committee and the senate  
35 human services and corrections committee, shall be the chair of the  
36 joint task force.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.** (1) The Washington state institute for  
2 public policy shall make recommendations concerning which  
3 administrative structure or structures would best realize efficiencies  
4 in administration and best achieve positive outcomes for children and  
5 families, including, but not limited to, the following:

6        (a) Reducing the number of children at risk for abuse or neglect  
7 and increasing the safety and well-being of children;

8        (b) Increasing the ability of families to care for their own  
9 children and reducing the number of children in foster care;

10       (c) Increasing placement stability and permanency for children in  
11 out-of-home care and reducing unsafe and inappropriate placements;

12       (d) Delivering appropriate and timely mental health services;

13       (e) Providing adequate and appropriate staff training and  
14 education;

15       (f) Promoting foster parent recruitment, training, and retention;

16       (g) Reducing the frequency and duration of sibling separation;

17       (h) Delivering adequate and timely services to adolescents; and

18       (i) Increasing responsibility and accountability for achieving  
19 goals.

20       (2) The institute shall also make recommendations concerning the  
21 costs, benefits, savings, or reductions in services associated with the  
22 various administrative structures considered in the study.

23       NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 4.** The institute shall report its  
24 recommendations to the joint task force created in section 2 of this  
25 act by December 1, 2005."

26       Correct the title.

EFFECT: Requires the Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP), under the direction of the joint task force created in the bill, to conduct a study to determine the most appropriate and effective administrative structure for delivery of social and health services to the children and families of the state, including how best to ensure that an administrative structure has defined lines of responsibility for delivering services to children and families in need and the best means for the public to hold government accountable for delivery of those services.

Requires the WSIPP to compare the effectiveness of: Including social and health services to children and families within an umbrella agency, such as the current department of social and health services; establishing a separate agency for social and health services to children and families whose administrator reports directly to the governor; or creating a children and family services cabinet reporting directly to the governor. Requires the WSIPP, as part of the comparison, to examine the administrative structures used in other states to deliver social and health services to children and families.

Creates a joint task force to determine the most appropriate and effective administrative structure for delivery of social and health services to the children and families of the state. Requires the joint task force to direct the study conducted by the WSIPP pursuant to the bill. Membership of the task force is to consist of the following:

The Dean of the School of Social Work at the University of Washington or an academic professor from a list recommended by the Dean, jointly appointed by the Chairs of the House Children and Family Services Committee and the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee;

Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be a member of the majority caucus and one of whom shall be a member of the minority caucus, and two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, one of whom shall be a member of the majority caucus and one of whom shall be a member of the minority caucus;

The Secretary of the Department of Social and Health Services or the Secretary's designee;

An individual with previous experience as an administrator of a public agency providing services to children and families, jointly appointed by the Chairs of the House Children and Family Services Committee and the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee;

A juvenile court administrator, jointly appointed by the Chairs of the House Children and Family Services Committee and the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee;

A family superior court judge, jointly appointed by the Chairs of the House Children and Family Services Committee and the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee;

The Director of the Office of the Family and Children's Ombudsman;

A social worker with experience in the public sector serving children and families, jointly appointed by the Chairs of the House Children and Family Services Committee and the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee; and

Two representatives of community-based providers serving children and families, jointly appointed by the Chairs of the House Children and Family Services Committee and the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee.

Provides that the Dean of the School of Social Work at the University of Washington or the academic professor jointly appointed by the Chairs of the House Children and Family Services Committee and the Senate Human Services and Corrections Committee is to be the chair of the joint task force.

Requires the WSIPP to make recommendations concerning which administrative structure or structures would best realize efficiencies in administration and best achieve positive outcomes for children and families, including, but not limited to, the following:

Reducing the number of children at risk for abuse or neglect and increasing the safety and well-being of children;

Increasing the ability of families to care for their own children and reducing the number of children in foster care;  
Increasing placement stability and permanency for children in out-of-home care and reducing unsafe and inappropriate placements;  
Delivering appropriate and timely mental health services;  
Providing adequate and appropriate staff training and education;  
Promoting foster parent recruitment, training, and retention;  
Reducing the frequency and duration of sibling separation;  
Delivering adequate and timely services to adolescents; and  
Increasing responsibility and accountability for achieving goals.

Requires the WSIPP to make recommendations concerning the costs, benefits, savings, or reductions in services associated with the various administrative structures considered in the study.

Requires the WSIPP to report its recommendations to the joint task force created in the bill by December 1, 2005.

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